

CLAIMS LISTING:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:
 - pre-positioning tissue at the tissue into an aesthetically corrected configuration; wherein pre-positioning of the selected tissues is used to shape a thermal lesion so as to create or facilitate the creation of a directed wound healing response; and wherein vectored pre-positioning of the selected tissues is accomplished using surgical techniques, including but not limited to, pre-positioning the selected tissue by hand, suturing the tissue in place, using a steri strip, using a surgical/tissue adhesive, or using a surgical clamping device known in the art;
 - delivering energy to the tissue site using an energy delivery device;
 - delivering a vectored mechanical force to the tissue site;
 - producing a thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue site to secure tissue in the aesthetically corrected configuration; and
 - remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1:
 - wherein the tissue is pre-positioned prior to contact of tissue by the energy deliver device.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - wherein the tissue is pre-positioned by dependant positioning of the patient or patient extremity.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - producing a plurality of thermal adhesions or lesions.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the plurality of adhesions or lesions is substantially continuous or at least partially overlapping.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
delivering energy in a selected pattern or grid pattern.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the pattern of energy delivery is configured to produce a substantially uniform thermal adhesion or lesion.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the force is at least one of a compressive force, a tensile force or a substantially uniform force applied over the tissue site.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the delivered force has a force profile with respect to a radial direction of a force application surface, the force profile substantially increasing in an inward direction with respect to an edge of the force application surface.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the force is delivered using a force application surface.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
delivering a first force in a first direction; and
delivering a second force in a second direction.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
wherein the force has a magnitude in the range from about 0.01 to 10 lbs.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1:
wherein the force has a magnitude in the range from about 0.5 to 10 lbs.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
wherein pre-positioning is done using a skin tensioning device separate from the energy delivery device to apply force in a substantially parallel direction to the skin surface.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
cooling a layer of tissue or a surface layer of tissue of at least a portion of the tissue site.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
producing a reverse thermal gradient within at least a portion of the tissue site.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
heating a subjacent layer or a dermal layer within the tissue site.
18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
producing at least one of a wound healing response or scar collagen induction within the tissue site.
19. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
substantially preserving at least a portion of a surface, a tissue layer or an epidermal layer at or adjacent the tissue site.
20. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
tightening at least one of a tissue layer, a surface layer, a skin layer, a dermal layer or a skin portion of the tissue site.
21. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
rejuvenating at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
reshaping at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site or the surface of the tissue site.
23. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
increasing at least one of a thickness or an elasticity of at least a portion of the tissue site.
24. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
contracting at least a portion of tissue within the tissue site
25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1:
wherein the force has a magnitude in the range from about 2.5 to 10 lbs.
26. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of tissue is one of a collagen matrix or a subjacent collagen matrix.
27. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
performing a liposuction procedure substantially at the tissue site.
28. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
skeletonizing at least a portion of fibrous septae at the tissue site.
29. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
tightening at least a portion of an iatrogenically loosened skin envelope at the tissue site.
30. (Currently Amended) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:
pre-positioning tissue at the tissue into an aesthetically corrected configuration;
wherein pre-positioning of the selected tissues is used to shape a thermal lesion so as

to create or facilitate the creation of a directed wound healing response; and wherein vectored pre-positioning of the selected tissues is accomplished using surgical techniques, including but not limited to, pre-positioning the selected tissue by hand, suturing the tissue in place, using a steri strip, using a surgical/tissue adhesive, or using a surgical clamping device known in the art;

delivering energy to the tissue site using an energy delivery device;

delivering a vectored force to the tissue site, wherein the force has a magnitude in the range from about 0.1 to 10 lbs;

producing a thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue; and

remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site utilizing the thermal adhesion or lesion.

31. (Original) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:

delivering a thermal dose to a tissue site using substantially overlapping applications of energy from an energy delivery device, the thermal dose sufficient to cause at least one of tissue tightening, collagen contraction or remodeling of at least a portion of tissue at the target site;

producing a substantially uniform thermal lesion at the tissue site; and

remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site while minimizing aesthetic discontinuities or irregularities in the remodeled portion.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising:

producing at least one of a wound healing response or scar collagen induction within the tissue site.

33. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising:

delivering a vectored mechanical force to the tissue site to correct an aesthetic deformity, secure tissue or create a directed wound healing response.

34. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising:
producing a reverse thermal gradient within at least a portion of the tissue site.
35. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising:
performing a time sequence of energetic treatments wherein a subsequent thermal dose is delivered in a period of days, weeks, months, or years after the initial dose.
36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the subsequent thermal dose is delivered to augment, improve or enhance the tissue remodeling.
37. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising:
selecting the tissue site based on an amount of convexity at the tissue site.
38. (Original) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:
delivering a pattern of energy applications to the tissue site using an energy delivery device;
delivering a vectored force to the tissue site;
producing a substantially uniform thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue site;
and
remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site utilizing the pattern of energy applications.
39. (Currently Amended) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:
selecting the tissue site based on an amount of convexity at the tissue site;
pre-positioning tissue at the tissue into an aesthetically corrected confirmation;
wherein pre-positioning of the selected tissues is used to shape a thermal lesion so as to create or facilitate the creation of a directed wound healing response; and wherein

vectored pre-positioning of the selected tissues is accomplished using surgical techniques, including but not limited to, pre-positioning the selected tissue by hand, suturing the tissue in place, using a steri strip, using a surgical/tissue adhesive, or using a surgical clamping device known in the art;

delivering energy to the tissue site using an energy delivery device while minimizing energy delivery to substantially non convex areas adjacent to convex areas;
delivering a vectored force to the tissue site;
producing a thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue site; and
remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site utilizing the thermal adhesion or lesion.

40. (New Claim) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:

delivering energy to the tissue site using an energy delivery device;
delivering a vectored mechanical force to the tissue site;
positioning tissue at the tissue site into an aesthetically corrected configuration after the delivery of energy; wherein post-positioning of the selected tissues is used to shape a thermal lesion so as to create or facilitate the creation of a directed wound healing response

producing a thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue site to secure tissue in the aesthetically corrected configuration; and
remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site.

41. (New Claim) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:

delivering energy to the tissue site using an energy delivery device;
delivering a vectored force to the tissue site, wherein the force has a magnitude in the range from about 0.1 to 10 lbs;

positioning tissue at the tissue site into an aesthetically corrected configuration after the delivery of energy; wherein post-positioning of the selected tissues is used to shape a thermal lesion so as to create or facilitate the creation of a directed wound

healing response

producing a thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue; and

remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site utilizing the thermal adhesion or lesion.

42. (New Claim) A method of energetically treating a target tissue site, the method comprising:

selecting the tissue site based on an amount of convexity at the tissue site;

delivering energy to the tissue site using an energy delivery device while

minimizing energy delivery to substantially non convex areas adjacent to convex areas;

delivering a vectored force to the tissue site;

positioning tissue at the tissue site into an aesthetically corrected configuration

after the delivery of energy; wherein post-positioning of the selected tissues is used to

shape a thermal lesion so as to create or facilitate the creation of a directed wound

healing response

producing a thermal adhesion or lesion at the tissue site; and

remodeling at least a portion of tissue at the tissue site utilizing the thermal adhesion or lesion.